

the *Emily*

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Students' Society

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**WELCOMES
YOU
TO UVic**



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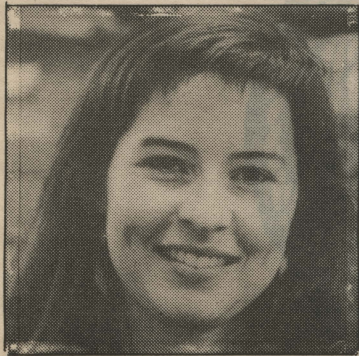
WOMEN YOU SHOULD KNOW

Students' Society



Cathy Richardson

Cathy Richardson is UVic's Women Liaison to the Canadian Federation of Students — British Columbia Component (CFS-BC) and can help bring women's concerns to the Students' Society, UVic Administration or the provincial government. Cathy is a wealth of information on the International Women's movement and is always enthusiastic and creative in her solutions to problems women face.



Elizabeth Loughran

Elizabeth is the vice-president, academic of the UVSS and the only female member of the Students' Society's executive. She can be contacted at 721-8369, SUB 137a. She sits on a number of university committees relating to issues pertaining to women.



Heather Gropp

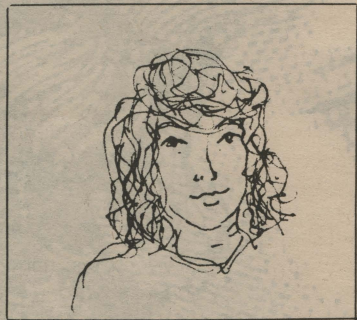
Heather is the Resource Coordinator for the UVSS and can be contacted at 721-8366, in SUB 137. She can provide women with a variety of information on issues relevant to students on this campus. As well, Heather has a wealth of knowledge regarding the workings of the university and the Students Society and can assist students with many questions they may have regarding university life.



Kelley Abeyasinghe

Kelley is the former VP Academic of the Students Society and active with the Vancouver Island Public Interest Group (VI PIRG) and serves women nationally as the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) Women's Commissioner. As well as attending CFS national executive meetings and raising women's concerns, Kelley is responsible for national student campaigns on women's issues. If you have any ideas come talk to her at SUB 144 or call 721-8629.

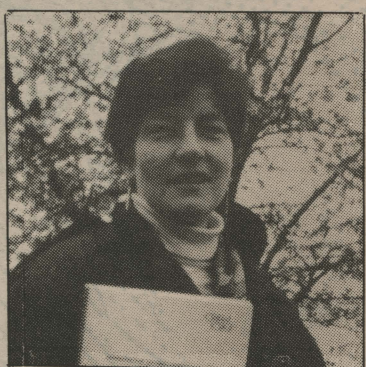
SUB Office



Phillipa Sumsion

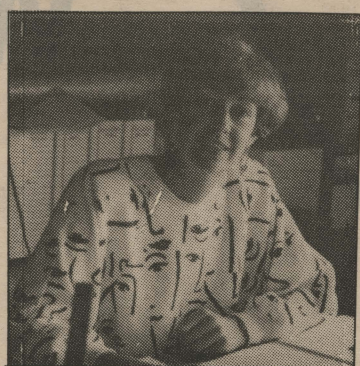
Phillipa is the Student Union Building secretary and is an invaluable resource to students. She is in during regular office hours and can assist you with booking meeting rooms, contacting the Students' Society executive and directors, discount bus passes and Students' Society part-time job information. She is in the SUB General Office above and beyond the call of duty.

Women's Studies



Christine St. Peter

Christine is the senior professor in the Women's Studies Programme and is the past president of the Canadian Women's Studies Association (CWSA). As well she is the regional editor of the Canadian Women's Studies Magazine. Christine will be happy to answer your questions regarding the Women's Studies Programme.



Jennifer Waelti-Walters

Jennifer is one of the founding, organising members of the Women's Studies Programme and she is its director. As well Jennifer is a Professor in the French Department. Her courses always offer a unique, literary approach to feminist study.



Barbara Whittington

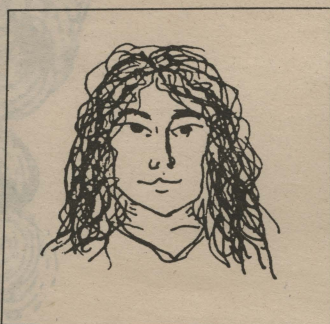
Barbara Whittington is also one of the Sexual Harassment advisors on campus. Barbara is a Professor in the School of Social Work. She can be reached at 721-8044 during office hours and at 652-3525 on weekends and evenings.



Mary Jane McLachlan

Mary Jane is the only female Counselling Psychologist at Counselling Services at the UniCentre. She can be reached at 721-8341 during regular office hours. She has been very eager to sponsor women's assertiveness training workshops and is a great resource for women who need someone to listen to them.

Campus Advisors



Charlene Simon

Charlene is the UVSS Ombudsperson. Her capacity is advisory in nature, however, this covers a wide range of areas and can be a great resource for students experiencing academic, legal, tenancy and other problems. She can also act as an impartial observer in disputes.



Lise-Lotte Loomer

Lise-Lotte is the past president of the Students' Society Board of Directors and is currently employed by the University Administration in Student and Ancillary Services. She is now working with orienting first year students to life at UVic and can be reached at 721-8341. Lise-Lotte can direct you to any services you may need at UVic and her reassuring manner will be put you at immediate ease.

More Feminist Professors



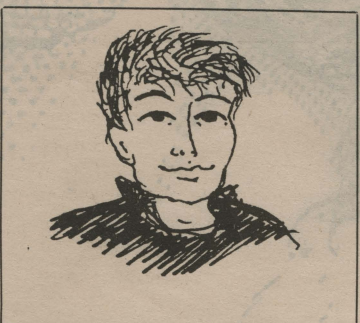
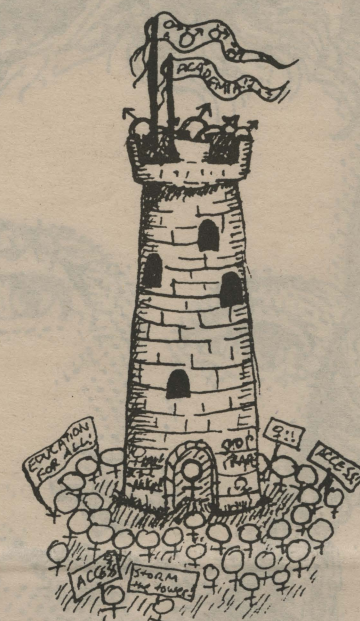
Josie Schoefield

Josie is a long time member of Women for Economic Survival (WES) as well as being a sessional instructor in the Political Science and Public Administration Departments. In past years Josie has offered several courses on women in politics and feminism.



Maureen Maloney

Maureen is the second woman ever to be appointed as a Dean at UVic and is the third female Dean of Law in Canada. She has been active with the Faculty Women's Caucus for a number of years and she is involved with the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women (CACSW) and the National Association of Women and the Law (NAWL).



Michelle Pujol

Michelle is the newest faculty member in the Women's Studies Programme. She recently presented several works at the 1990 Learned Societies Conference held here at UVic. Her specialty is economics and she is a brilliant addition to our feminist community.

Advisors



Sandra McCallum

Sandra is one of the three Sexual Harassment advisors as well as being a Professor in the Faculty of Law. She can be reached at 721-8188 during office hours and 370-1551 on weekends and evenings.



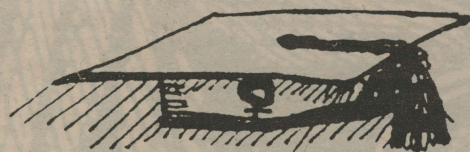
Lucille Mackay

Lucille coordinates the University Daycare and can assist students with a variety of issues concerning daycare, funding and subsidies. She is available for consultation during office hours at 721-8500. The University Daycare is located behind the Saunders Building and is open from 8:00am to 5:30pm.



Norma Mickelson

Norma is the Advisor to the President on Equity Issues. What this means is the president of the university consults Dr. Mickelson on issues of concern to women and other similarly disadvantaged groups. Dr. Mickelson's office is located in the Sedgewick Building.



There are, of course, numerous other women you should know. We apologise to those women who did not make this edition of *the Emily*; we will be including you at a later date.



Wilderness Of Women

by Susanne Klausen

Beginning in September, women will be able to take part in wilderness tours designed by women, for women. Wilderness of Women (WoW) is a new program which aims to encourage as many women as possible to explore and enjoy wilderness areas in British Columbia. The different locales include the Stein Valley, Clayoquot Sound (Tofino) and Strathcona Park. Ranging from four to seven days in length, each trip focuses on a different theme and offers opportunities to develop different skills. Examples are, "Wilderness travel skill development" and "Lesbians and Allies — exploring and healing our internalized homophobia."

Why was WoW developed? One of the coordinators of the program, Catherine Berry, says "there is a need for this; we realized that many women who do become interested in hiking in wilderness face barriers that need to be addressed." According to Berry, such barriers have included appropriate daycare for single mothers, lack of money, lack of equipment and/or transportation, and at times there has been a psychological barrier for women in wilderness tours who feel uncomfortable with a "real 'go for it' attitude. That's why we stress a safe atmosphere for women, plus offer car-pooling, equipment, childcare and a sliding-scale. We run on a non-profit basis. For us the emphasis is on being in wilderness, not on getting somewhere — we want to explore and reclaim our connections with the Earth and each other."

Ficky Stingers

by Eve Lewis
a preview

by Alisa Gordaneer

FICKY STINGERS is a one-act play, written by Eve Lewis, adapted and directed by Laura Evans. it's been workshopped at Cafe Noir. it's opening at the Fringe Festival this september.

it's about a woman. about a woman, and a man. about what happens.

she tells the story. her story. could be her story, could be anyone's story. any woman's story. she tells what happened, even if she doesn't have the words to describe it., to name it, to make it known. she knows how it feels.

"Did you ever have a pencil poked in your ear when you were little?" she asks. "Do you know what it feels like to have a rolled-up newspaper jammed down your throat? A chair leg rammed up your arse? It hurts. It hurts like fuck."

and she tells us more, tells herself more. relives what 's happened. tries to make sense of it. of the horror.

it is not a horror show. don't expect blood and gore.

it is a horror show. of another kind. but it's not horrible. far from it. it's a gripping piece of drama. it's skilfully adapted and directed by Laura Evans.

it's at the fringe. and at UVic. see it.

The hiking tours have several aspects in addition to the emphasis on skill development. There will be discussion about native issues, the ecology of and the problems facing each of the areas (logging, mining, etc.), and all will be offered in a spiritual context. "We are very open about the political situations of wilderness in B.C., and our roles as activists here in Tofino. Of course we won't be forcing our opinions on anyone, but we won't hide them either. The same goes for native issues; especially now that native peoples are speaking out, we believe it is necessary to talk about the history of the people indigenous to these areas. We are very aware of the fact that it is their land we are walking on," Catherine said.

Finally, what is meant by "spiritual"? "Generally speaking, there will be a strong emphasis on a process of group/self/Earth discovery. We hope to nurture our spirits by doing exercises aimed at developing and strengthening our sense of connectedness with the earth." Although the hiking trips are not meant to be a submersion into any particular spiritual belief, Catherine says that all the exercises are grounded in a Wiccan perspective. "I find Wicca most welcoming to women — it doesn't see women as second-class citizens. It celebrates the power of the earth to give birth and sustain life and recognizes women's experiences doing the same. Wicca holds that all humans have a connection with the natural environment and is one way to nurture this connection."

"I believe that the oppression of women and the oppression of nature in the world today is not an accident. There has been seen to be a "special" connection between women and the earth for many centuries, but to abuse women because of this is an excuse, not the reason, for our oppression. But instead of cutting ourselves off from nature in an effort to liberate women, I think we need to work towards aligning ourselves with the Earth. The oppression must stop — not respect for Mother Earth."

If you are interested in finding out more, or if you have any camping equipment you could donate to Wilderness of Women, call 725-3230.

In Parc Lafontaine the wind flung
my papers.
I knew I had to leave.
I couldn't keep still until I found you.
Now my heart gallops.
My hands have the power of the sun.
My whole self is a stream under
the sheets of a savage
and inevitable rain.
But if I watch you light a cigarette,
your gestures sublimate
the Prospero inside me.
I want to throw a singing cry as far
as I can,
and then,
gently,
press my lips
to the palm of your hand.

Catherine Clark

NO ASSEMBLY REQUIRED

I was watching the T.V. and all those beautiful women and I kept thinking, all the time I just kept thinking they're so beautiful. Those women are so beautiful and they're so brave, for not trying to hide their femaleness and they just stay there laughing on the beach, playing volleyball, drinking beer, singing and they don't care what they're wearing. They're not afraid to show their bodies, their womanliness, probably spent hours dressing and combing and fussing and they are really beautiful and brave and to go to all that trouble.

So beautiful and so brave that I want to write a poem about them, to celebrate them: their anonymous faces, their anonymous bodies and if I was a man, a regular man, I would want to marry one and take care of her and marvel in her beauty and her bravery.

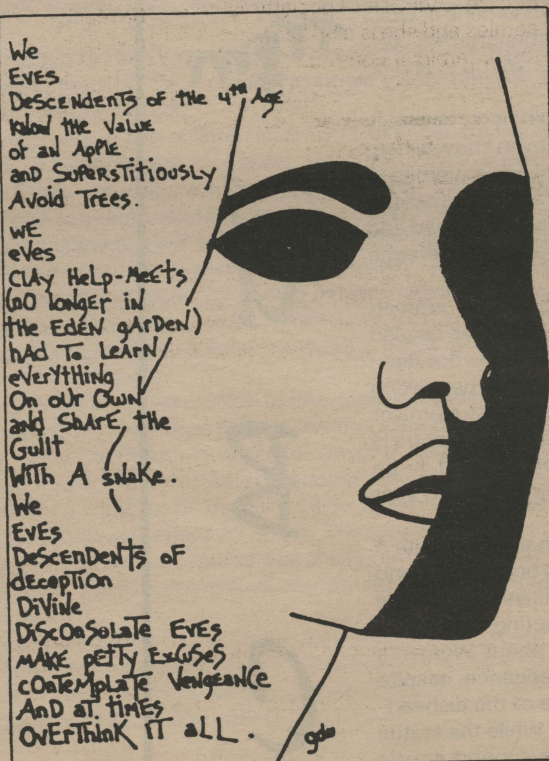
I would take strength from her, this woman, my wife, and I would adore her, I would worship her and protect her and I would tell her that it is so dangerous to be playing volleyball on the beach and singing and drinking beer and just not even caring about who might be watching, not even knowing what they're thinking. Because I am a man, and I know what they think about her. I know what they want to do to her. I know because I am a man.

I would say, please, please, stay inside with me and don't play volleyball on the beach anymore, because its dangerous, just like its dangerous to laugh and sing and dance and drink beer. It's dangerous to do it where everyone can see you. That's the most dangerous part, because all those men can see you and that you're so strong and so brave and they'll want you too and they won't understand when you say no. They just will not understand that, that you don't want to share yourself with them, you who have so much to offer. They'll be angry then, they'll be so angry and so jealous and they'll want to punish you for having all of that, everything that you have and not wanting to share it with them, not wanting to see them or talk with them or hold them because it seems like someone who is so beautiful and so brave and so generous would have enough to go around, and they don't understand that you don't, they want to milk you of that strength and keep some of it to themselves and they will resent you, because never, never in a million years will you need them as much as they need you. That will never happen because you take so much time with yourself, take such good care of yourself and they won't understand that because they have never taken care of anyone, except for you, in their minds. And you didn't let them, worse than that, didn't need them to and its just unacceptable, unacceptable to their minds that you don't need them, don't even want them but they would die for you.

That you won't die for them, that is the most puzzling thing, because in their minds and maybe in reality they beat you and they taunt you and sometimes they rape you and maybe its just that you don't feel like making love right then and they do and they're bigger and they just keeping bugging you and bugging you and maybe its easier to just go with it than to keep saying no, than to keep moving their hands off your knee, your thigh, your breast, your neck. Because maybe they don't understand how they want you so much, need you so much and you don't want them at all. How can that be? And you don't like to fight. I know that, you've said it a million times. You don't even want to argue about maybe me wanting broccoli and cheese sauce with dinner and you just wanting salad, you just say okay lets have broccoli and cheese sauce even though you don't like it. I know you don't like it, its just that you make cheese sauce so much better than I do. How can it be that I even want to argue with you, you who is so beautiful and so brave, how can that be? But that's what we do, that's what I do. And I hate that, I hate that look in your eye when I know you just do it because you don't want to argue with me, don't want to bother, because what's the point, you say. It never changes.

And all those men out there are still wanting you, still wanting you playing volleyball on the beach and laughing and singing and getting your hair done and drinking beer and I can't let them have you, I can't let it happen. I can't let you go. I'll just keep you to myself, forever. I'll just keep you to myself making cheese sauce and maybe sometimes playing volleyball but not with other people, not on T.V.. I'll be the only one there, watching you and your beauty and your bravery because you are still so beautiful and so brave I can't believe it. I can't stand it that you are so beautiful and so brave and making me cheese sauce and you don't even like it. I can't stand that but I wonder, what do you think, standing there at the stove, stirring the cheese sauce and sticking a knife in the broccoli. I go out and get some lettuce because you are so beautiful and so brave. I wash the lettuce because that's what you wanted. I stand at the sink and I wash the lettuce and I think oh god I love you so much and then I bring the washed lettuce over to you and I wrap my arms around your waist and I rest my head on your shoulder and you are stirring the cheese sauce, stirring and stirring and stirring and it is thick and rich and orange and I think how lovely it will be and maybe I'll let it slide onto my lettuce and I'll eat that too.

After dinner I am watching T.V. and I see women and fabric softener and Tide and ground in dirt and I think maybe you are like them too and maybe they are beautiful, maybe they are beautiful for always taking care of everyone and caring about ground in dirt and wanting clothes to feel soft against people's skin and it seems so noble and so caring to share all that beauty and all that bravery in making cheese sauce and softening fabric and getting out ground in dirt.



MEN AND FRIENDS

by Catriona Johnson

Women Abuse in Dating Relationships: The Role of Male Peer Support

By Walter S. DeKeseredy
Published by Canadian Scholars' Press Inc.

The title caught my eye: *The Role of Male Peer Support*. I'd always wondered about that, wondered enough to ask former male lovers what they talked about with their friends, what the jocks discussed in the shower-room, why men joined fraternities?

How are men affected by these male friendships?

How do men's friendships affect women?

Then the August 6th issue of *Time* magazine carried an article, "Sex and the Sporting Life: Do Athletic teams unwittingly promote assaults and rapes?" It states that "to a great degree, sexual abuses are a consequence of men banding together in tight-knit competitive groups" and goes on to explain how group loyalties often diminish personal integrity. According to noted psychologist, Dr. B. Sandler, the addition of drugs or alcohol into the equation, will often lead individuals into participating in a gang rape. "They will do anything to please each other.... They are raping for each other. The woman is incidental."

DeKeseredy's book, *Woman Abuse in Dating Relationships*, is a study concerned "with examining how male peers perpetuate and legitimate the sexual, psychological and physical victimization of females in university dating relationships." The study is based on data from Canadian universities and is to my mind, especially relevant to UVic where sports teams and male dominated clubs abound. For many young men, coming to UVic is their first experience with living away from home, and like their female counterparts, loneliness disappears by becoming part of a group.

In analyzing available data, DeKeseredy found that two determinants, (1) patriarchy and (2) socialization, were left out. He uses Eisenstein's definition of patriarchy as, "...a sexual system of power in which the male possesses superior power and economic privilege. Patriarchy is the male hierarchical ordering of society." Says DeKeseredy, "although norms gov-

erning male dominance may be endemic in Canada, not all men equally adhere to the patriarchal ideology.... However, some of the men in this study may have had peers who adhered to '...patriarchal values, norms, and beliefs...'

The theoretical model that DeKeseredy arrives at combines dating relationships, stress, male peer social support, and woman abuse, and gave rise to six hypotheses:

1. The more social support men receive, the more likely they are to abuse their dating partners or girlfriends.
2. The more stress men experience, the more likely they are to abuse their dating partners or girlfriends.
3. The more serious the dating relationship, the more likely men are to abuse their dating partners or girlfriends.



4. The more stress men experience, the more social support they will obtain.
5. The more serious the dating relationship, the more social support men will receive.
6. The more serious the dating relationship, the more stress men will experience.

DeKeseredy distributed questionnaires to 333 male undergraduate students attending summer courses at York University, University of Guelph, University of Toronto, and McMaster University. The sample age ranges were from 18 to 65, with the mean age being 23. The sample was further broken down by religion, ethnic group, year at university, and family income. Control variables were age, dating

partners use of alcohol or drugs on dates, and the subjects use of alcohol on dates.

Woman abuse was defined as "any intentional physical, sexual, or psychological assault on a woman by a boyfriend, lover, male cohabitor, or casual date." Social support referred to "the actions and reactions of a male peer (or peers) that provide or are perceived as providing solutions to problems associated with male-female dating relationships." Finally, stress was defined as arising "when a male appraises a dating life event as 'threatening or otherwise demanding and does not have an appropriate coping response'."

DeKeseredy's findings were frightening. The overall abuse rate was 70% with 69% reporting using psychological abuse and 12% reporting physical abuse. Approximately 11% of the total sample had engaged in "minor" forms of physical abuse (eg. throwing an object at a partner, pushing and slapping) and 6% reported using severe violence (eg. punching and kicking) against a partner.

The study also found that "male peers may reward woman abusers by buying them drinks or offering them other 'rewards'. Moreover, violent cohabitants may be given shelter if they have to leave their residences because of fear of outside intervention (eg. police, friends or family of victims)." Further, peers may also furnish "vocabularies of adjustment" that help "men to rationalize their physical, sexual, and psychological assaults". Abusers may therefore have feelings of well-being rather than remorse or guilt.

The many aspects of society that lead men to become abusive are complex and not easily eliminated. The roles that the media, pornography, and the socialization process in general, play are still being studied. The male peer group is another area that needs further study, however, it is clear that there is a necessity for male education.

University administrations must take steps to understand and then alleviate these situations. This could be done through research funding, discussion groups, and mandatory classes on sexual violence. Universities have a responsibility to the women that attend them and to society as a whole. UVic is not the exception.

by Catherine Clark

I am a third year student transferring to UVIC from UBC, and, having found much invaluable support, emotional and spiritual, from the Women's Centre there, I immediately gravitated to UVIC's. As soon as I walked through the door, I felt myself dovetail with the place, as I had done at UBC. In fact, it was my visit there that prompted this article; I thought that UVic women might like to know what their sisters in Vancouver are up to and up against.

The UBC Women's Centre is located in the SUB on the main floor; hence, it is surprising that so few women actually make use of it or even know where it is. It's primary function is to provide a relaxed space for UBC's women to sit and talk, have a coffee, eat lunch, read, study, etc. The core element of women who organize it also serve as liaisons between women in need and counselling services, daycare, housing, legal advice, and self-defence groups.

The very fact that the centre is considered a sanctuary for women disallows any men to enter it at any time, for any reason. This has caused some controversy among students of both sexes, but there has not been sufficient opposition to change the ruling. In addition to this perplexing question, the centre has had precious little support from either students or Administration, owing at least in part to the fact that the Women's Centre is not particularly well publicized by the AMS, and was not included in the campus tour for new students — I didn't discover it until my second year there.

The Women's Centre is also involved in helping to (finally!) institute a Women's Studies programme, in the capacity of informing both female and male students of its content and its academic possibilities. Dr. Valerie Raoul, the programme's coordinator, called an open meeting last spring with the intention of informing any interested students about Women's Studies. Approximately four (female) students were in attendance, despite extensive efforts made to publicize the meeting. I was one of the disheartened four, but the sorry turnout legitimized my belief that while the status of women has come far, it still has leagues to go. Popular support equals funding equals progress, so do your bit to reconcile the sexes and support your Women's Centre wherever you happen to be.

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EMILY EDITORIALISES

The Warrior Society, a group of men in camouflage blocking a bridge — what do they have in common with feminists? Well, just about everything. In the Mohawk nation everyone has a role and a responsibility. The warriors are not a bunch of thugs blocking a bridge like a gruesome troll in a fairy tale. (Never mind that the bridge is on Mohawk land). Danielle Woodward, a native woman who went to Oka as an observer, recently explained that all the decisions made concerning events at Kahnawake and Kanesatake are made in the respective longhouses. The Mohawks have established their own system of government and the decisions taken there are based on the need to protect their nation. As the Mohawks are a matriarchal people, it is the elder women who have the ultimate control and could ask their government to dissolve at any time (they have the right idea). If the elder women demanded that the blockades come down, they would. Yet the blockades are still up — and for good reason. This isn't about golf courses, cigarettes, gambling, anti-Quebecoisism or a bridge. This is about everything. This is about Canadian apartheid.

We all know, more or less, (usually less) the history of European settlement in Canada. We know that the First Nations people offered to share everything they had with Europeans. We know that there was never any all out war or treaties which handed Native lands over to Whites. We know the takeover was insidious, slow, ruthless and brutal. What we as a society seem to disagree on is whether or not the First Nations people have claim to their land today. It's obvious that the state doesn't think so.

Today the government has given the army the mandate to go in and take down the barricades, by any means necessary. The state self-righteously shakes a finger at the Mohawks for not using the *legal* channels. I wonder what Elijah Harper would say about the legal system . . . surely he must think it pitiful that one must resort to filibustering and "anarchy" in parliament in order to prevent legislation from passing. We all know who these channels work for and where they lead. And think of the time wasted — time which others could have used to creatively govern this country. The Tory government will make an example of the Mohawks so that the people on the blockades in Lillooet and all over the country will realize what they are up against. The state is threatened because the people know it is not working. At least the oppressed know it — and they (we) are the majority. There will be a power struggle. There will be blood. There will be martial law. Deja vu. When you don't learn from history it has to repeat itself.

The First Nations people are getting it first and hardest. The army has been itching to mobilize for years — it does not profit from peace. The Natives are on the bottom rung on the ladder of oppression in Canada. We will soon see other oppressed groups speaking out and occupying the front lines. Soon we may see feminist blockades. Oppression will not go away on its own. As we are seeing at Oka, the state will not give up its power without a fight.

Oppressed groups must begin to show more solidarity. Women at the University of Victoria, among others, are taking an active stand in support of the Mohawks. It is the same force which oppresses Natives, women, the poor, blacks, immigrants, workers and disenfranchised groups everywhere. This same force is destroying the planet. This force is a privileged class, motivated by greed and power, which controls the wealth of society. This class loves its neighbours if the neighbours are white, bourgeois, and capitalist.

Together in another class Natives and feminists have been known to share a different philosophy — a recognition that we must take care of each other, the earth and all creatures if we are going to survive on this planet. No feminist is an island. We must all stand up and take responsibility for whatever we do to each other. Unfortunately, we must also take responsibility for the actions of our politicians. We are part of a collective society which (actively or passively) chose them. Now we must actively choose to remove them from power and replace them. Our hegemonic values must become life-sustaining values. Like the Mohawks, we must put ourselves on the barricades and refuse to move. And, as for the police state, they've come for the Natives. Soon they'll come for the rest of us.

First they came for the Jews
and I did not speak out because I was not a Jew

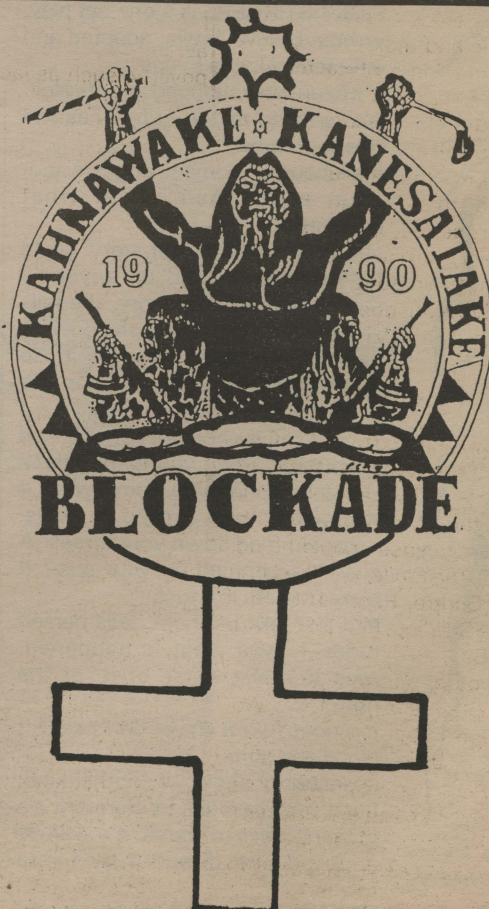
Then they came for the communists
and I did not speak out because I was not a communist

Then they came for the trade unionists
and I did not speak out because I was not a trade unionist

Then they came for me
and there was no one left
to speak out for me.

Pastor Niemoeller (victim of the Nazis)

We have to help each other . . .



THE EMILY'S EDITORIAL COLLECTIVE

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Cathy Richardson
Catriona Johnson
Donna Wessel
Emma Goldman
Emmeline Archer
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Kathryn Fairfield
Kelley Abeyasinghe
Kerry Holt
Marne Jensen
Michelle Robidoux
Pam Frache
Susanne Klausen
Queen Victoria
Anonymous (who is still alive & well & female)
• • •

The Women's Centre and the *Emily* would like to express our gratitude to the following individuals, along with our Collectives, who have given so much of their time, talents and themselves to help make this our most eye-catching and amazing summer:

Doctoral Ben Dorman
Bonny Bob Beck
Bonnie Curran
Catriona "Boom Boom" Johnson
Happening Heather Gropp
Ian Case, P.I.
Incredible Ida Eriksen
Ken Henderson
Kathryn Fairfield, Coordinator
Larry W. Irving, super genius
Lise-Lotte Loomer
Lilibet Loughran
Dr. Norma Mickelson
the eversexy, Sexy Crayola
Voluptuous Val Hemminger
And a cast of thousand we're probably forgetting . . . okay, at least ten.

The Emily Editorial Policy

The *Emily* consists of an autonomous editorial collective consisting of three co-editors (funded through the workstudy program) and contributing volunteers. All women at UVic are welcome to become members of the *Emily* Editorial Collective and/or contributors to the *Emily*. The *Emily* takes first North American publishing rights, only, from its contributors. *Emily* Editorialises is written by various individual members of the Collective and may or may not reflect the opinions of the *Emily* Editorial Collective.

Emily Editorial Policy is entirely determined by the Editorial Collective at the beginning of each year. Our primary aim is to promote women at UVic and their concerns as well as to provide a place for women to see their work in print. The *Emily* is a forum for feminist debate.

While policy can change from year to year it is the accepted premise that we print nothing misogynist, heterosexist, homophobic, racist, ageist, sexist or otherwise discriminatory in nature. As well we adhere, whenever possible, to the policies of the UVic Women's Centre.

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OVER HERE, THE CHILDREN

by Donna Wessel

Far off in the uncharted backwaters in the eastern spiral arm of the campus lies the University Daycare. Over here are the children. It is a different world of little stoves and dolls and cribs, puzzles, swings and even a resident cat. The toilets are small, most of the people are small and the space is small. So if you need to have your child attended to while you are in class, you will have to tell them that a year in advance. Yes, there is a waiting list and it is a first come, first-served arrangement. Being a parent, particularly a single parent, requires having a great deal of foresight. More than I would have. But isn't it nice that we even have a daycare?

The University Daycare came into being at the insistence, and indeed the financial push of the University of Victoria's Students' Society. The Students' Society's contributions and parent fees are still the Daycare's only sources of revenue. That means you and I: we financially support the Daycare now and it was our predecessors who saw the need and paid money to create a solution. The story goes that the secretary in the SUB General Office didn't have time to do her work anymore because so many students were dropping their kids off, 'just for an hour, just while I go to class. Thanks a million.' And being a generous woman, she didn't mind, but the Society did. You get what you pay for and we paid and we got: a daycare and a secretary who now had time to do her work.

Along with the generous contribution of the Graduate Students' Society, who donated their building, way back in the nether, nether (four phone calls and two file searches have been unable to answer this question — somewhere around 1984 or 1985) and who, as a result, have one room of approximately 500 square feet, to this day in which to house all their activities, the University Daycare was born. The Graduate Students, you will be happy to hear, will once again have their own building. It is scheduled for completion in January, 1991 and will be located behind the SUB.

All's well that ends well? Well not so far. In a building where "the paint is literally peeling off the walls," as former UVSS vice-president finance, Brian Menzies described it, there is a need for renovations at least, and preferably an expanded facility. At the moment the daycare can only handle 60 full time children between 18 months and five years and an additional 30 children for after-school care, so there is physical as well as spatial need for a new building. Although there is noted concern within the Board of Directors that this situation be rectified, their are also noted financial straps one time allocation from their Capital Building Fund for Daycare expansion.



Photo: the Martlet

The Daycare has also received a matching grant from the provincial government for the new building, making their total capital somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$300,000. They need between \$1.2 and \$1.5 million to begin construction on the building. Fundraising, fundraising, fundraising.

There is also the issue of Students' Society president, Howard Jampolsky, and his election promise to donate his salary (approximately \$13,000) to the Daycare expansion fund. Four months into his term this has so far failed to occur. At this point, according to the Board of Directors, it appears that

"Even though we are appreciative of what the UVSS gives us, it is a very small percentage of our operating costs," Mackay said. Most of the Daycare funding comes from parent fees and if you are part of a family structure which consists of two full-time students and children, you will find yourself out in the cold as far as receiving any government subsidy for child care. \$20,000 per year is the income level at which subsidy stops. This is just over the amount a two parent family on student loans brings in. Mackay lobbies the government against this. "The government sees a student loan as disposable income and they do not consider the costs of tuition fees and books which students have to use their loans to pay for," Mackay said.

As well as taking care of children and coordinating the Daycare, Mackay also provides a number of other services. One of them is "helping parents work through the bureaucracy," inherent in the daycare subsidy program offered by the ministry of Social Services and Housing. "If they come against the subsidy wall," Mackay may have to refer parents to the UVSS Ombudsperson, Charlene Simon. But in many cases she is able to help students understand the process better and access a subsidy. She will do this whether or not your child is attending the University Daycare. Part of her job is to liaise with the University and the community.

In real economic terms what the subsidy can mean to individual parents is paying a monthly surcharge of \$75.00 for each child in daycare. While this is certainly not acceptable in terms of a community which takes responsibility for all of its children, compared to unsubsidized daycare costs of approximately \$350.00 to \$400.00 per month, it is also nothing to sneeze at.

David Clode, Associate Director of Student and Ancillary Services and former manger of the Student Union Building feels that it is necessary "for the government to at least acknowledge," that daycare is well within their purview, and responsibilities, before a solution can be found. How long this takes then, is an issue for the voters decide.

Jampolsky will be donating \$5,000.00 at the end of his term. Jampolsky was not available for comment at the time of printing.

What This Means To You:

As a student who is also a parent, the University Daycare can provide you with a number of services, even if they cannot give your child a spot in their filled space. If you did not secure a position for your child last year the news is not great. According to Mackay, in September "most centres and homes with a (good) reputation will be full."

CHILD POVERTY

Victoria may seem like the mecca of British Columbia's wealth for some people, but increasingly, more and more Victoria children are going to school hungry in the morning.

The Together Against Poverty Society, a local non-profit society, wants to address the problem of child poverty at its second Victoria Child Poverty Forum on September 29th, 1990. Forum organizers hope to raise public awareness of the growing community problems associated with child poverty, such as lack of child care, affordable housing and school meals programs.

Forum Coordinator, Kerry Holt, says there is a desperate need for such a forum in Victoria where there is a large number of single parent families and heavy competition in the job market.

"It is estimated that one in five children in British Columbia are living in poverty," Holt says. "Childhood is such a short period in our lives, but what happens to us as children can influence the rest of our lives. That's why it's important that we find workable solutions to child poverty now."

One of the Forum's speakers will be 12 year old, Michelle Edwards of Victoria, who will speak about her experience with poverty. The Forum will also feature a panel discussion with four people of low income and people who have dealt closely with poverty issues. Workshops will be held on the rights of the child, school meal programs, recreation, housing, child care and poverty's affects on children.

"The Forum provides a place for people of low income to express their own needs and concerns, and have their recommendations taken seriously," Holt says, "but the Forum is really for anyone concerned about poverty. We all need to work together as a community to find solutions."

The admission fee is \$10.00 or by donation. This fee will be waived for anyone who cannot otherwise afford to come. The location is still to be announced, but registrants can be assured that the Forum will be held in an easy to access location. Registrants will all be notified of the location by telephone well in advance.

The Forum will run from 9:00am to 2:15pm, and lunch and child care will be provided. For more information or to register, call Kerry Holt at the Forum Desk at 361-1989 or 389-3521, or write to Together Against Poverty at Fifth Floor-1815 Blanshard St., Victoria, B.C., V8T 5A4.

Facts About Child Poverty:

- 20% of B.C.'s population lives in poverty;
- One in five B.C. children live in poverty;
- More and more children live in single-parent households; 85% of these are die from cancer;
- Current welfare food allowances provide a family with adequate food for only 18 days of the month;
- Present shelter allowances are \$100.00-\$200.00 below actual market prices. Dollars spent on rent must come out of food budgets;
- A family in Victoria is allowed a food hamper (which lasts only three days) once every month or two;
- Children are attending St. Andrew's Breakfast Club, a Victoria soup kitchen for the homeless and others;
- Children are the fastest growing impoverished group in Canada;
- More and more children live in single parent households: 85% of these are headed by women who earn only 2/3 of the average wage for males.



TODA la
sociedad es
responsable
de TODOS
los niños

"All of society is responsible for ALL the children."

WHAT AM I GETTING IN

WHERE ARE THE WOMEN ?

by Catriona Johnson
and Donna Wessel

As a first year student at UVic, you will soon discover that all things are not created equally. UVic is an abundant source of information on the marginalisation of women. Like most Canadian universities, women at UVic make up 56 per cent of the student body, yet they constitute only 18 per cent of tenured faculty (security and benefits). Most women are concentrated into the positions of sessional instructors (no job security, no benefits and less money for more work).

Tenure is affected by years of experience, published works and qualifications as well as student and peer evaluations. A woman with children has less time for research and publishing, and there may have been periods in which she did not work, lessening her chances for promotion. As well, it is a common phenomenon that sessional instructors are identified as such and it is very difficult to get past that label; therefore, sessionals are very often overlooked when hiring is done for tenured positions.

In addition, University staffing procedures reflect society's stereotyping of women. Cashiers and secretaries are usually women, while groundskeepers and janitors are usually men. As you would expect, their pay scales reflect the world beyond the ivory tower. A Secretary IV makes \$1,937.00 per month, whereas a Groundskeeper I makes \$2,233.00 per month.

Secretaries usually require a grade 12 education, some technical training and up to four years experience in the secretarial field, as opposed to the higher paid groundskeeper who needs only a driver's license and a grade 10 education. It should be noted that both of these positions start at level I and in each case the individual will increase in seniority and pay levels the longer they are in the University's employment. These are not isolated incidents in the lives of University employees.

Academics do not fair much bet-

ter than their pink collar sisters, on or off the campus. Out of the 44 departments/programmes into which the university is divided there are five women who are in the positions of chairperson or director. This translates to slightly over nine per cent. Women are found in the traditional or expected areas, with the exception of **Yuen-Fong Woon who chairs the department of Pacific and Asian Studies**. The remaining four women are **Jennifer Waelti-Walters, director of the Women's Studies Programme; Caroline Attridge, director of the School of Nursing; Marilyn Callahan, director of the School of Social Work; and Gordana Lazarevich, director of the School of Music**.

There are nine faculties at UVic and only one is lead by a woman. This means that 11 per cent of the highest administrative positions within the faculties are filled by women. **Maureen Maloney** was appointed **Dean of Law** early this summer. She is one of only three women deans of law in Canada and the second woman dean, ever, at UVic. She was appointed to her position early this summer.

Within the **Board of Governors**

Deans at UVic

Arts and Science:

Humanities:

Social Sciences:

Education:

Engineering:

Fine Arts:

Graduate Studies:

Human and Social Development:

Law:

Alastair Matheson

Edward Berry

Louis Costas

Robert H. Fowler

Eric G. Manning

S. Anthony Welch

Alexander McAuley

Brian Wharf

Maureen Maloney

(BoG), which is the highest governing authority of the University; there are four women representatives out of a total of 16 members. Two of these women were elected by the student body: **Diane Drummond and Maureen Hedley**. Of the eight government appointees on the BoG there are two women, **Mrs. Susan Irvine and Mrs. Miriam Lancaster**. Both of these women reside out of town.

The **Senate**, the body which deals with academic welfare of the University and its students, is currently

made up of **59 members, 15 of whom are women**. Again, a large percentage of these women are made up of student representatives.

The **UVic Administration** is composed of various offices which oversee the day to day running of the University. Of the 28 top offices, four are filled by women: **Margaret Swanson, Head Librarian; Gertrude Martin, Bookstore Manager; Kayla Stevenson, Director of Development; and Evelyn Samuels, Public Relations Director**.

On the University of Victoria **Students' Society's** Board of Directors (**UVSS BoD**) the situation is marginally better. Of the four executive members, there is one woman, **Elizabeth Loughran, VP Academic**. The majority (by one) of the **at-large director** positions are filled by women: **Susan Albion, Lisa Crampton, Shannon Dolphin, Claire Heffernan, Val Hemminger and Oona Padgham**. Four new at-large director positions will be available for women to fill in the October Bi-election.

UVSS staffing procedures, however, do not fair as well. Of the 16 managerial positions in the Student

Union Building, seven are filled by women. These positions, however, include the areas of Daycare, Entertainment, Food and Beverages.

The position of women in post secondary education is not a very attractive one. Perhaps with a better understanding of these realities women will begin to actively change the situation and men will work with them in creating a balanced campus. The lost talents of over half the population are being lost to the University if we continue with this sad record.

Statistics

Dept./Programme	total tenured faculty	total tenured women	% of women	sex of chair
Anthropology	10	1	10%	M
Arts in Education	8	1	13%	M
Biochemistry/ Microbiology	13	1	8%	M
Biology	37	9	24%	M
Business	1	0		M
Chemistry	26	0		M
Child/Youth Care	8	2	25%	M
Classics	7	0		M
Creative Writing	9	0		M
Communications/ Social Found.	18	7	34%	M
Economics	13	0		M
Education	10	6	60%	M
Environmental Studies	2	0		M
Electronic/Computer Engineering	17	0		M
Engineering	9	3	33%	M
Fine Arts	3	1	33%	M
French	12	6	50%	M
Geography	21	3	14%	M
Germanic Studies	6	1	17%	M
Graduate Studies (faculty reps)	9	0		M
Hispanic/Italian Studies	4	2	50%	M
History	19	3	16%	M
History in Art	6	4	67%	M
Health Information Sciences	6	0		M
Human/Social Development	2	0		M
Linguistics	9	1	11%	M
Mathematics/Statistics	28	4	14%	M
Mechanical Engineering	12	1	8%	M
Music	17	3	18%	F
Nursing	8	8	100%	F
Pacific/Asian Studies	8	2	25%	F
Philosophy	9	1	11%	M
Physical Education	15	4	27%	M
Physics/Astronomy	30	0		M
Political Science	11	1	9%	M
Psychological Foundations	16	4	25%	M
Psychology	26	4	15%	M
Public Administration	15	0		M
Slavonic Studies	3	0		M
Social/Natural Sciences	12	2	17%	M
Social Work	9	4	44%	F
Sociology	10	2	20%	M
Theatre	12	3	25%	M
Visual Arts	10	2	20%	M
Women's Studies	2	2	100%	F
Total	550	98	17.8%	

Source: 1990/91 University of Victoria Calendar

WOMEN IN

by Jacquie Best

When students come to learn about economics or sociology (or language, literature, education, psychology, philosophy, political science, anthropology, science) they are taught about men, and men's view of the world, and this is a lesson in male supremacy. While on the one hand women have achieved some success in gaining entry to education, it is entry to men's education and it serves to reinforce male supremacy and control in our society.

Dale Spender,
Invisible Women: The Schooling Scandal, 1982

Women are a long way from achieving the equality that Chatelaine insists is already a reality: the 1986 Canadian Census found that an average woman with a university degree only makes slightly more than a man with a highschool diploma. The difficulties that women students face start before they leave university. Although things are beginning to change at UVic, women are still at a disadvantage in the classroom.

"(Women) are under-represented generally in the core curriculum

courses," says Chris Devlin, an English student who has taken two courses on women.

Although 56% of students on campus are female, they don't often learn about women in their courses. The content and interpretation often remains male-biased. The canon of western academic thought is still composed of names like John Locke, William Wordsworth, and Copernicus. Women like Mary Wollstonecraft, Emily Bronte, and Hypatia of Alexandria are only occasionally used as "exceptional examples."

"These holes in the academic canon are one of the main reasons for providing courses specifically on women," says Jennifer Waelti-Walters who is teaching a course on women's literature in the French department this year. "We are attempting to make the knowledge about women visible."

Courses on women may also challenge the structure of traditional disciplines. "The Renaissance" for example was not a time of rebirth for women, but of increased oppression. By taking women's experience into account, we may have to alter our conception of human history. Jodi Jensen, a student currently taking a course on the history of women says, "we're



NTO: A Special Report

YOUR POLITICS: A CALL TO ACTION

by Kelley Abeysinghe

Perusing the above list of "her-storical" dates gives you an idea of how slowly women achieve political equality with men. More importantly, the list of them on paper does not give us any sense of what these women had to go through to make their(and our) voices heard. Certainly, the recent backlash against feminism on campuses can give us a sense of their experience, but the world is slightly less hostile and alienating than it was in the first two or three decades of the 1900s. We should never forget their struggles.

Do not get a false sense that women are anywhere near representing thier true numbers. It will take decades before women and men will be represented equally, particularly at the federal and provincial level. Municipally, women are doing better, although it varies considerably. Our activities with other forms of "politics" also includes our activities as volunteers and supporters, campaign workers and community activists, where our numbers are the greatest. Slowly we move increasingly into the "front lines" of decision-making as elected officials in many different arenas.

Student Unions are one of these arenas. The fact is, however, that although women make up over half of the overall student body at UVic, we stil do not always make up half of the elected student representatives. A Board that has a majority of women in one year does not mean that the next board will maintain at least a fifty-fifty split. It also doesn't mean that women have become comfortable with being in the political arena.

What are the barriers to involvement? While they vary at all levels of participation, many are constant. Society has definite ideas about the behaviour of women and men, and although these roles are changing, politics at the upper levels are still viewed as male activities. There is

1834-Quebec legislature takes away vote from women
1883-First of three suffrage bills to be introduced by Sir John A. MacDonald, and defeated three times
1916-Women in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba are given the provincial vote
1917-Women with property are permitted to hold office in Saskatchewan
1917-Women in British Columbia are given the provincial vote
1917-Women who are British subjects and have close relatives in the armed forces can vote, on behalf of their male relatives, in federal elections
1918-Women are given the full federal franchise
1918-Women are given the provincial vote in Nova Scotia
1918-Mary Ellen Smith is first woman elected to British Columbia legislature
1919-Women are given the vote in New Brunswick
1920-In the Dominion Elections Act, uniform franchise was established and the right for women to be elected to parliament was made permanent
1921-Mary Ellen Smith, in British Columbia, is appointed the first woman Cabinet Minister in Canada and in the British Empire
1921-Agnes MacPhail is the first woman elected to the House of Commons
1921-Nellie McClung is the first woman elected to the Alberta legislature
1922-Women in Prince Edward Island are given the vote
1925-Women over 25 are given the vote in Newfoundland
1928-After a petition from Emily Murphy, Nellie McClung, Louise McKinney, Irene Parlby, and Herietta Muir Edwards, the Supreme Court of Canada decides that under the terms of the BNA Act women are not "persons" and therefore cannot be appointed to the Senate of Canada(known ast the Persons Case)
1929-The Persons Case goes to the British Privy Council which overturns the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada: women are deemed to be "persons" and can therefore be appointed to the Senate

1931-Cairine Wilson becomes the first woman appointed to Senate of Canada
1934-Women are permitted to hold elected office in New Brunswick
1940-Women are given the vote in Quebec provincial elections
1943-Agnes MacPhail becomes one of the first women electecd to the Ontario legislature
1949-Nancy Hodges becomes the first woman Speaker in the British Columbia legislature, and in the Commonwealth
1951-Charlotte Whitton of Ottawa becomes Canada's first woman mayor
1957-Ellen Fairclough is sworn in as the first women federal Cabinet Minister
1958-Margaret Meagher is appointed Ambassador to Israel and is the first female Canadian head of mission
1960-Gladys Porter is the first woman elected to the Nova Scotia legislature
1962-Claire Kirkland-Casgrain becomes Quebec's first MPP and Quebec's first woman Cabinet Minister
1967-Brenda Robertson is the first woman elected to the New Brunswick legislature and their first woman Cabinet Minister
1970-Lena Pederson becomes the first woman member of the Northwest Territories Council
1972-Muriel Fergusson is appointed the first woman Speaker of the Senate of Canada
1975-Rosemary Brown is the first woman in Canada to challenge the Leadership of major federal political party, the NDP-
1984-by this year, only twenty-seven women sit in the 282 seat House of Commons-double that of 1980
1989-Audrey McLaughlin is the first woman to become a leader of a national party, the NDP

still the pervading notion that private life and public life are not compatible. This is never considered a problem for men, because women are at home to take care of the household. Men, however, do not generally consider taking on this role to enable the women in their lives to become active in politics. This is a problem even for students on campus who wish to become active.

A lack of financial resources: Women make approximately 64% if what men make, and 60% of Canada's poor are women. Women who work in the home do not have large sources of income. Because society views politics as a largely male activity, men are more likely than women to get a leave of absence from their jobs. Of course this is beginning to change.

Lack of support services: women do not have universal access to daycare and other support services that would help them ease gently into public life. Since many women are

single parents, with limited resources, this lack can force women to give up or postpone any thought of activism.

And finally, if we overcome all these barriers, we often face a lack of confidence in our own abilities, perceptions and opinions. Too often, it is harder to get heard as a woman, or an assumption is automatically made that we won't understand something. Too often also, we believe that we actually don't have something to say which is as profound or as interesting as the man sitting next to us. But probably every one of us has had the experience more than once of not saying something because we felt uncomfortable about talking, only to have someone else say it (and perhaps not as eloquently as we would have, if only...). As well, we've probably all had the experience of saying something, maybe something important, but we got no response and yet not ten minutes later a man says the same thing in a

different way and suddenly everybody is interested in his novel idea!

This is not to say that men don't experience such things, of course they do. But women experience them much more often and possibly for different reasons than do men. For instance, a woman sitting on a largely male executive or in a largely male committee may be feeling more aware that she is a female while the patriarchal jargon and procedure of Robert's Rules of Order fly back and forth. As women move into areas that have traditionally been male domains, areas such as the Students' Society Boards of Directors, they constantly have to push themselves to do things that they may never have done before or even considered doing.

There will be a Bi-Election in October for the University of Victoria Students Society. At least four positions of Director will open. These are volunteer positions. If elected, you will be required to sit on a Board with nineteen other individuals, and

participate on two committees. These committees include everything from student issues to social issues to administration of the building. It is an incredible place to gain confidence and skills, meet some wonderful people and help carry out campaigns.

Don't let anyone tell you you don't have the experience. If you care about issues, if you want to make a difference in the world, you are qualified. In fact you are more than qualified. Go see Elizabeth Loughran, Vice-President Academic in SUB 135. She'll help get you started. And keep your eyes open for workshops on HOW TO RUN!

Sources: The Canadian Federation of Students *See Jane Run Campaign*; and the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women background paper, *Women in Politics: Becoming Full Partners in the Political Process*, November 1987.

THE UNIVERSITY CURRICULA

Courses on Women 1990-91:

English 372	18th Century Women Novelists
English 385	The Bronte Sisters
English 399A	Poetry by Women
English 399B	The Otherness of Female Discourse
English 462	Feminist Literary Theory
French 488F	Women Writers
French 488G	Women in Literature in the 17th and 18th Century
History 437	Japanese Women from the 6th to the 20th Century
Paci 437)	The 11th Century Japanese Court: Women's Diaries
History 439	Contemporary European Philosophy
Paci 439)	Issues in Politics: Canadian Feminism
Philosophy 408	Issues in Politics: A comparative perspective on Women and Public Policy
PolSci 433	Sociology of Families and Households
PolSci 433	Social Movements (the Women's Movement)
	Sociology of Gender
	200A, 200B, 300A, 300B, 400A, 400B, and 490

not just taking a look at women within this patriarchal context, but trying to reevaluate the context (itself)."

However, specialized courses on women are not enough, says Jensen. Women's issues are "still marginalized," and must eventually be integrated into all courses. This would mean that women's contributions and concerns would be addressed in all courses, rather than simply in a select few.

Another limitation of offering separate courses on women in each discipline is that they may "lack either the political agenda or the centralized focus that Women's Studies provides," Devlin points out. In order for us to understand the implications of our newly discovered (or rediscovered) knowledge about women, we have to bring the findings of the different disciplines together. In a Women's Studies course, these issues are examined within the context of women's continued subordination in our society -- a context that is sometimes missing in isolated courses on women. Ideally, a university would offer courses on women and have a Women's Studies department, as well as integrating women's issues into general courses. Are we moving towards this kind of

future?

"Yes, but not as quickly as we would like," French professor Waelti-Walters says, English, French, and History departments have responded much more quickly than others. Social Science departments are finally beginning to hire women interested in making changes. She adds that professors are more open to their students bringing women's issues into their courses.

Despite these advances, sexist language is still a problem in many classes. "I had a prof. last year who made a joke (in class) about beating his wife," says Jensen. Many students are unaware that the Senate does not allow this kind of language in class. The Senate Committee on teaching and learning says that an effective instructor "is sensitive to the range of attitudes and experiences possessed by students of both sexes, varying cultural backgrounds, and differing ages, and is therefore able to create a learning environment in which all students feel they have a place." A quality course uses "non-discriminatory language and examples." The problem has at least been acknowledged.

Future changes are likely to come from several different directions.

Waelti-Walters says students

can have an impact by demanding courses on women, but warns, "some departments listen to their students and some don't." Hiring more women professors, who currently only make up 16% of faculty, may also be a key. Says Jensen of subject areas like Chemistry, "just by having women teach you're going to have a different perspective on what you're learning." Waelti-Walters is more cautious in her optimism. Describing the hiring of more women as "a start," she points out that many women academics have had to identify with male values to be successful in their disciplines.

In the end, it may boil down to money and power. Support from the upper administration is crucial, Waelti-Walters says. If women's issues are going to be perceived as every bit as exciting and worthy of attention as men's issues, the president and deans must give them that legitimacy.

We can only hope that the new President, Dr. Strong, is making these positive changes a part of his mandate.

MYTHS About SEXUAL ASSAULT

by Marne Jensen

Sexual Assault is one of the most misunderstood crimes in Canada. Despite efforts to define sexual assault as a violent crime involving power and domination, rape myths emphasising the sexual nature of the crime persist. These commonly held misconceptions do not represent the true nature of the crime.

"It could never happen to me."

This is the most appealing myth, but one out of every four women in Canada will be sexually assaulted at some point in their lives; one out of seventeen will be sexually assaulted involving forced intercourse. All women are potential victims, regardless of age, class, ethnicity or physical appearance. In Canada, reports of sexual assault, involving forced sexual intercourse include women of all ages, from a four month old infant to a 92 year old woman. However, women between the age of 14 and 22 are the most vulnerable to sexual assault. While men are also potential victims, a 1981 Canadian study concluded, that 90 per cent of sexual assault victims were female and that their assailants were male.

"Rapists are sex-craved perverts,"
OR
"But he's so popular, it can't be true."

In reality, there is nothing exceptional about the male offender: they represent all class, ethnic, occupational and educational backgrounds. Almost half of all offenders, who force their victims to have sexual intercourse, are married or living common-law at the time of the assault and are considered responsible members of the community. In most instances, the victim will know her assailant. There is nothing about the assailant to distinguish him from Joe Average. The offender is Joe Average.

"What did she expect, being out so late at night?"

Women are constantly warned to avoid walking alone at night and to be wary of strangers. However, 49 per cent of all sexual assaults occur in broad daylight, women are assaulted by someone they know 67 per cent of the time and 75 per cent of all sexual assaults occur at home or in a vehicle. These statistics suggest that better advice might be: never go home and never talk to anyone you know.



"She got him all excited and led him on. What was he supposed to do?"

This myth reveals our society's tendency to hold the victim responsible for sexual assault. She shouldn't have dressed that way/ been so drunk/taken a ride/ led him on. Rationalisations like these may be used by men to justify their actions, or they may be used by women to distinguish themselves from the victim to avoid feeling helpless and vulnerable. By believing the victim did something to provoke the assault, one can believe that sexual assault can be avoided by not dressing that way/ drinking too much/ accepting a ride/leading him on.

Also this myth suggests that women do not have the right to limit sexual activity and that to agree to any sexual contact is to agree to sexual intercourse. The implication that a man is incapable of controlling himself once aroused is an insult to all men.

"Women often cry rape to get revenge or because they feel guilty about having sex."

This statement implies that tough sexual assault laws are required to protect men from false sexual assault charges. However, in reality, sexual assault is the most under-reported crime: only one in ten sexual assaults are reported to the authorities.

"Women secretly fantasize about being raped."

A survey of college-aged men revealed that 51 per cent said they might rape a woman if they knew they wouldn't be caught and punished. The men also indicated that they thought the woman would enjoy it. While some women may fantasize about "submitting" to a "powerful" or "forceful" man, sexual assault is a violent crime of power and domination committed to humiliate and degrade the victim. Once one understands what sexual assault is, one knows that no woman wants to be sexually assaulted.

Sexual assault remains a confusing issue in a society where media images depict force as sexy; women are stereotyped as passive, dependant and nurturing; men are stereotyped as aggressive, dominant and forceful; and the balance of power between men and women remains unequal.



by Marne Jensen

The first laws against sexual assault were designed to protect male property: wives and daughters. A man convicted of sexual assault was usually required to financially compensate the woman's owner (eg. father or husband). A father would receive money to compensate for the reduced price on the marriage market for damaged goods; a husband would receive money for the violation of his right to exclusive sexual access to his wife. Although sexual assault laws have evolved over the centuries, the idea of women as property persists. Today, virgin daughters and chaste wives are still more likely to successfully charge their assailants

**DONT ACCEPT RIDES FROM
STRANGE MEN AND
REMEMBER ALL MEN ARE
STRANGE AS HELL**

with sexual assault. In most states south of the border, a wife cannot charge her husband with rape and some states have extended this immunity to common-law partners.

In January 1983 the old laws of rape, attempted rape and indecent assault were replaced by a three tiered sexual assault law. The definition of rape as requiring penetration was replaced by measuring the level of violence used in the attack, appropriately shifting the emphasis from sex to violence. Also, the changes included a de-genderizing of the charges, revoked a husband's immunity from the law, and removed the necessity of corroboration and recent complaint. Another important change is that it is now very difficult for the defence to bring up the complainants sexual history.

The three levels of sexual assault are defined by the amount of violence used in the attack: Level One-- simple sexual assault--includes any unwanted sexual activity (eg. kissing, touching, intercourse) with no sign of physical injury or abuse. Maximum sentence: ten years imprisonment. Level Two--sexual assault with a weapon, threats to a third party or causing bodily harm--includes the use of a weapon or threats to use a weapon, threats to a third party (eg. a child or friend) and causes bodily harm. If there is more than one assailant present at the time of the assault, the second person constitutes use of a weapon. Maximum sentence: fourteen years imprisonment. Level Three--aggravated sexual assault--includes the wounding, maiming, disfiguring or endangering the life of a person during a sexual assault. Maximum sentence: life imprisonment.

Although the new law reflects a vast improvement over the old rape law, laws are only as good as the people who interpret them. The maximum sentences for sexual assault implies that society defines it as a serious crime, but in reality, convicted offenders are sentenced to jail terms comparable to those

SEXUAL ASSAULT AND THE LAW

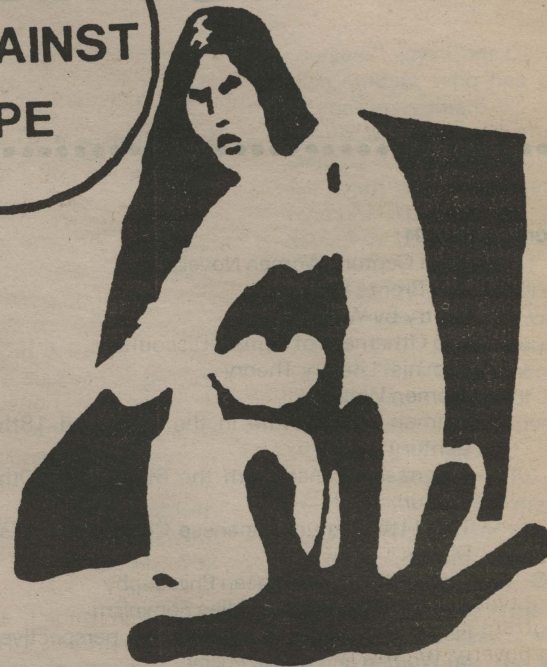
given for theft or burglary. In 1988, a judge sentenced an offender to a 90 day jail term to be served on weekends because there was "no evidence of lasting emotional or psychological harm to the victim." This judge clearly failed to recognize the trauma associated with sexual assault.

Numerous studies reveal that the majority of sexual assaults occur in the home and between persons who know each other. Thus, it is disturbing to note that prior knowledge of the offender negatively affects a complainant. In 1985, a judge handed down a lenient sentence of 90 days to be served intermittently with two years probation to an offender who tied up his victim and had forced sexual intercourse with her. His reasoning: "the accused had had a sexual relation-

ada's first case of sexual assault by a spouse, the offender pleaded guilty and received a one year prison term with one year probation. The judge reasoned: "I am of the view, and I believe it is common ground, that the degree of trauma associated with a sexual assault is affected by the relationship, if any, between the parties. And I think it cannot be said that the trauma suffered by the victim is as great where there has been a past history of lawful sexual relations with the accused as it would if she were attacked by a stranger." This statement ignores the trauma associated with the breach of trust inherent in the sexual assault of a spouse. Also, the sentencing of husbands does not seem to reflect the level of violence involved in the attack. An illustrative example appeared in the Winnipeg Free Press, September 8, 1983: the husband "pursued and caught her and began punching her in the face. He threw her to the ground and began choking her...then dragged his wife along the ground a short distance, pulled her pants to her knees and had intercourse with her against her will...Medical evidence presented at the trial noted [she] . . . required eight stitches to close cuts to her nose and mouth." The man was convicted and sentenced to six months imprisonment with one year probation. One must wonder what effect societal beliefs about women's masochistic tendencies and wifely "duty" have on judges.

Although the new sexual assault legislation constitutes positive change, the people in positions that interpret the law are far from being "new and improved." Attitudes that do not perceive sexual assault as traumatic to all women regardless of their relationship with their assailant are not surprising in a society where men are still able to "own" women either symbolically or temporarily through the purchase of pornography or prostitution. The new sexual assault legislation is hardly effective in the context of unchanged societal beliefs and attitudes.

**WOMEN
AGAINST
RAPE**



NO MORE SHIT!



ABORTION LAW CAN STILL BE DEFEATED

by Pam Frache and Michelle Robidoux

When Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceaucescu was overthrown last December, the world got a first-hand look at the reality of women being denied the right to choose abortion. For many years, abortion had been completely illegal in Romania, and the penalties enforced were extremely harsh.

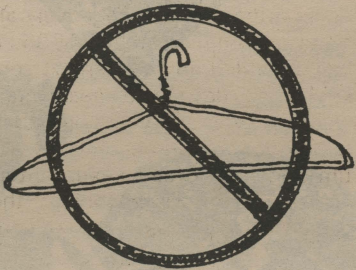
In the weeks that followed the revolution, stories of orphanages filled with malnourished, neglected children of all ages were carried in the Western press. Romanian women described life under conditions of constant surveillance by Ceaucescu's "gynecological police." It was revealed that thousands of women had died from botched abortions—an estimated 1800 in Bucharest alone in 1989.

On June 11th, that reality came crashing home when Yvonne Jurewicz, a twenty year-old student in Toronto, dies from a self-induced abortion performed with a coat-hanger. This young woman's death stood in grim contrast to justice minister, Kim Campbell's assertion that the accessibility of abortion in Canada would not be in danger by the passing of Bill C-43, a law which will make abortion a criminal act.

For over two years Canada has been without an abortion law. For over two years the Tory government has put forward the argument that a law was needed to balance the rights of a woman and the rights of a fetus. In fact, what the federal government attempted to do was paint a picture of two "extremist" groups — pro-choice and anti-choice — battling it out in front of abortion clinics. The introduction of Bill C-43 was packaged as a moral "compromise" to an issue over which their "morality" has no relevance.

This Tory fantasy is a long way from the real issues surrounding abortion. According to the most recent polls, 62 per cent of Canadians are opposed to abortion being re-criminalized. Those who would deny women the right to abortion, even in cases of rape or incest, are a tiny minority of Canadian society.

More importantly, there can be no "compromise" when women's lives are at stake. Whether or not abortion is legal, women will always seek to control their reproduction.



Where laws banning abortion exist, women facing an unplanned or unwanted pregnancy break those laws by resorting to backstreet abortions or by risking their lives attempting to terminate their pregnancies themselves. United Nations statistics show that over 200,000 women die each year from the complications resulting from illegal abortions.

No matter what assurances Kim Campbell may provide, the truth is that from the moment the Bill was passed by the House of Commons, access to abortion was restricted across the country. Doctors in Calgary's Foothills Hospital, Winnipeg Health Sciences Centre, and Halifax's Victoria General Hospital warned that they would be forced

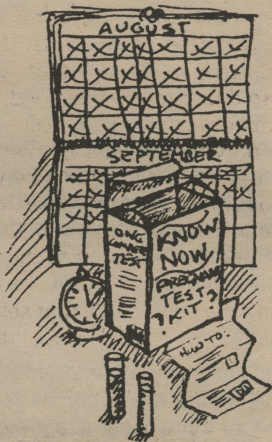
to stop providing abortion services because of the threat of third party litigation posed by the new law. The Canadian Medical Association opposed the law for leaving doctors open to harassment. Individual doctors in smaller communities reported an increase in picketing of their homes and offices by anti-choice groups.

The combined effect of these statements in the press gave the impression that the Law was now in effect even though it has not yet been passed by the Senate or proclaimed. These pronouncements by the medical profession led to panic among women — especially younger women — and birth control centres, health clinics, and abortion clinics began receiving dozens of calls from women asking whether they could still obtain abortions. There were only a few doctors in Quebec's community health clinics who said that they would defy the law.

There is a direct correlation between Yvonne Jurewicz's death and Bill C-43. Since 1974, there have been no recorded deaths from self-induced abortions in Canada. One week after the Bill passed third reading, a sixteen year-old woman from Waterloo was hospitalized after a backstreet abortion. A week later, Yvonne was dead.

Abortion laws kill women. But these laws don't affect all women equally. This crisis in access that the potential law has already created will not prevent women who have the means from flying to the United

States or approaching a specialist and obtaining the service. Wealthy women have always been able to get around those restrictions that have forced poor women to go to backstreet butchers. This is why Tory women, like Barbara MacDougall and Kim Campbell, can call themselves prochoice yet vote for Bill C-43.



The Law can be defeated. Kim Campbell may still have to eat her words. Three days after Yvonne's death, during a conference of provincial justice ministers, Campbell said that even if the Senate approved the Bill now, she would not have it proclaimed until she was certain that Canadian doctors would not be threatened by the new legislation. In the meantime Senate

hearing may take place across the country, which would provide a focus for mobilization against the Bill. Senators themselves have no plans to push the Bill through, a number of them having stated that they will stall it up as long as they can.

Senators are certainly useless targets for lobbying efforts, but the process of hearings means that a Senate vote will be delayed. There is still time to kill the Bill.

To this end, the Canadian Abortion Rights Action League (CARAL) along with the ProChoice Action Network, are planning a National Day of Action for October 13th.

Last year on October 14th, 20,000 people rallied across the country and said NO NEW LAW. The Tory government did not listen. The theme for this year's action is **MARCHING FOR WOMEN'S LIVES**. There are already events planned for Victoria, Vancouver, Calgary, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal, and Halifax. Many other communities are expected to join in the protest.

This anti-woman law passed third reading in the House by nine votes. The Commons will have a hard time trying to portray the Bill as widely endorsed legislation.

The lesson from this vote is, in the words of Yogi Berra, "It ain't over 'til it's over." If there is one slim chance to push this Bill over the edge, every one of us has a responsibility to make sure that chance is seized. One woman's death is too many.

The Feminization of Poverty

by Kathryn Fairfield

Despite the improvements in legislation and social programs that were made during the last decade, women continue to face an excessively high risk of being poor, the National Council of Welfare said in a report made on August 13, 1990.

Women and Poverty Revisited is an update of the Council's 1979 work **Women and Poverty**. It shows that women are still extremely vulnerable to poverty for reasons almost totally beyond their control. The main causes are child care responsibilities, labour market inequalities, marriage breakdown and widowhood.

"Obviously, the conventional optimistic view that the financial problems of women will disappear as more of them get paid jobs contains serious flaws," the report says. "The reality is that as women increase their work outside the home to improve their position relative to men, even stronger forces are at work to counter their gains."

The report includes a detailed analysis of the low income statistics for 1987 for women living in different types of households. Marriage offers the best protection against poverty, but this protection all too often disappears when a relationship breaks down or the husband dies.

"The figures speak for themselves. Only a third of married women under age 65 are employed year round in full-time jobs. Of the women who marry, only one in six is married for life. The others either separate or divorce or become widowed."

Single-parent mothers are espe-

cially prone to poverty. In 1987, 57 percent of all single-parent mothers and their children were poor. Their average family income was a mere \$10,400, or 61 percent of the poverty line."

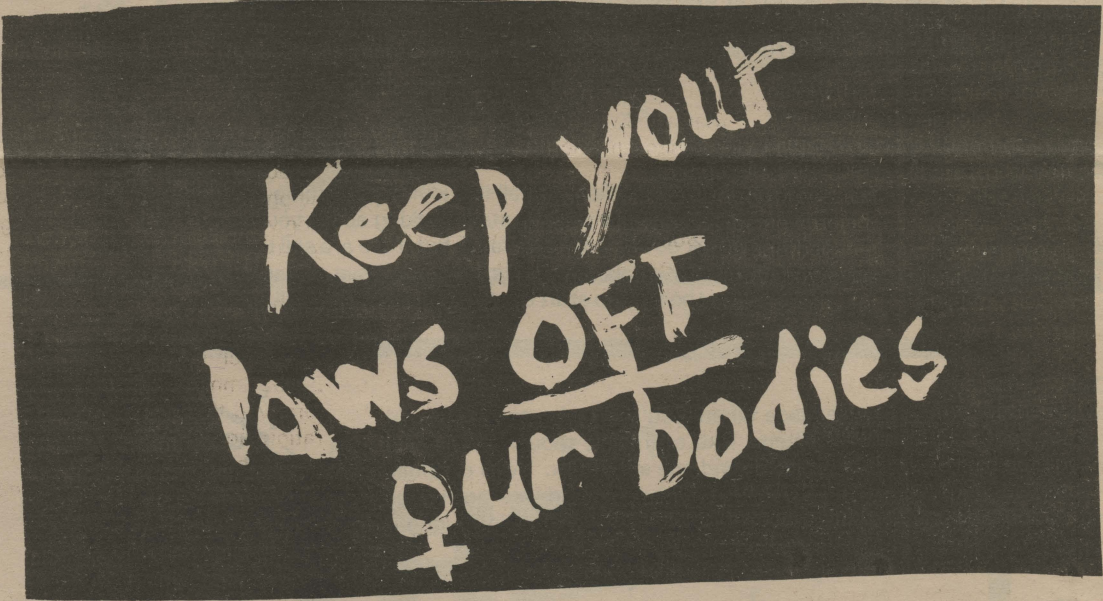
"When we calculated the total poverty gap — the total dollar difference between the poverty line and the incomes of all poor Canadians — we discovered that female single-parents with children under 18 bore a full 17 percent of this poverty burden, even though they made up only three percent of all households."

The report also discusses the problems of women living outside families — unattached young people and widows, for example — and the "doubly disadvantaged" — aboriginal women, disabled women, and women who are immigrants or members of visible minorities.

The 35 recommendations in the report would go a long way to making women more financially secure. Many of the proposals are aimed at breaking the link between motherhood and poverty.

"The fact that fathers are much less vulnerable to poverty demonstrates that things could be different. If mothers were provided with adequate support from society, including affordable child care and longer maternity leaves, equal access to well-paying jobs and fairer support payments, and if we had better income security programs for parents and older people, then women would not have to choose between personal financial security and motherhood."

The 153 page report is available through the Women's Centre for those interested.



Royal Commission on
New Reproductive Technologies

Commission royale sur les
nouvelles techniques de reproduction

The Royal Commission on New Reproductive Technologies announced in May details of an extensive public consultations program, including wide-ranging forums, a toll-free information line, and cross-country public hearings which commence in September, 1990.

"The issues surrounding the new reproductive technologies could ultimately affect all of us," said Dr. Patricia Baird, Commission Chairperson. "The Commission has launched the public consultations program to encourage people from all walks of life to become involved in discussing these issues." Dr. Baird noted that the Commission provides the first public opportunity for Canadians to discuss the issues surrounding new reproductive technologies from a broad, social and family perspective.

"The effects and implications of new reproductive technologies are extremely broad and complex, affecting various aspects of women's reproductive health, as well as raising important ethical and legal issues," stressed Dr. Baird. "We hope that everyone in Canada, representing the full range of experiences and views on these challenging issues, will take the important opportunity represented by our Commission to come forward and help influence the direction of public policy in this area."

New Reproductive Technologies were originally considered as medical and scientific techniques designed to assist infertile individuals who have been unable to conceive. In recent years, however, the technologies and procedures have expanded considerably.

This expansion is reflected in the Commission's mandate which directs it to examine areas such as reversals of sterilization procedures, artificial inseminations, *in vitro* fertilization, embryo transfer, surrogate childbearing, prenatal screening and diagnostic techniques, genetic manipulation and therapeutic interventions to correct genetic anomalies, sex selection techniques, embryo experimentation and fetal tissue transplants.

The Commission will be in Victoria on November 29th. For those persons wishing to relate a personal experience relevant to the Commission's mandate, in a more private or informal setting, individual sessions can be arranged. Written or recorded submissions will be accepted until December 31st, 1990. More information is available at the Women's Centre (SUB 106). Or you can call (613) 954-2322. An information kit, including background information on the Commission, its mandate, biographies of Commissioners, a hearings schedule, and **A Guide To Public Participation In The Work of The Royal Commission on New Reproductive Technologies**, may be obtained by calling the toll-free information line at 1-800-668-7060.

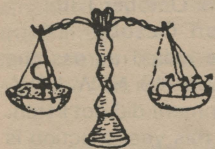
HORRORSCOPES

patriarchal signs for a patriarchal planet

by Emmeline Archer

VIRGO:

Those screaming Virgos, we like to say in the astrology biz. This month like most others you will be quietly screaming your virgo-nity. You people are naive, but this month it may serve you well; your protective blinders and trust in humanity may allow you a few more days of not know-ing. Still desperately clinging to utopian ideals, you are a child of the universe. You are not, however, responsible for all of its ills. On the bright side, Virgos, there is a measure of financial success coming your way, maybe even a wingfall. Happy flippin Birthday!



LIBRA

Oh, yes my well balanced darlings, you think you've got it all figured out, but I am here to tell you that your karma is way out of wack. Librans need to guard themselves against experiences that may induce unnecessary amounts of cynicism. It is far too early in life for war wounds. Plant your own garden and tend it carefully.

SCORPIO

How lucky to have a birthday right in the doldrums of winter. Your stubbornness and tenacity will serve you well during the upcomin year, in terms of GPA and self-satisfaction. But you've more likely already got plenty in those departments. Tread carefully within your interpersonal realm, make new friends and broaden your horizons. Learning to empathise would be your greatest accomplishment.



SAGITTARIUS

Resolution of old conflicts, with yourself and others, will set you on the path to enlightenment. Do what you need to do and not for anyone else. Your zany nature is great at a party but it can't hold up the planet. Get down to earth and revel in its wonder.

CAPRICORN

As usual, you are probably annoying everyone with your efficient abrasiveness/abbrasive efficiency. Relax, I mean it, really relax. When is the last time you experienced joy? Quit running from and to and enjoy what you have. That's all there is.



AQUARIUS

It's past dawn, kiddies, and all this loving everything business is great in theory, but you people need to start thinking about yourselves. Your car is going to break down, your roof fall in but there are still roses in the garden. You have lovely ideals, but sometimes you have to confront the here and now. This is the time to start on the path of self-actualization.

PISCES

You are finally coming to the place where you're starting to understand your own needs and to act on them. Like everyone, though, you are a creature who takes two steps forward and one step back. Tread carefully and understand your motivations; your subconscious drives are in full swing. Your brain is sending you messages loud and clear; don't ignore them and whatever you do, get them right.



ARIES

This is a time of major change for you and nothing is going the way you expected. After this you will experience discomfort and feel life is a just a dull routine. Unusual for you, but it may be a long, dry winter. Spring will find you singing from mountain tops, though. Be careful what you wish for . . .

TAURUS

Taurus, Taurus, Taurus. Your tortured soul is tired and you need to release it from its drudgery. When is the last time you went through a day without an emotional swing? Letting people closer to you, instead of doing all the work yourself would be a great weight off your shoulders. Old dogs and children need your attention -- and you need theirs.

GEMINI

Big changes for you too, but they have been a long time in coming and you've been planning well. Separation anxiety looks like the worst and knowledge of your ability to make good choices -- and act on them -- rounds out the top end. Wouldn't it be nice if everyone would just stop worrying about you? The thing is, you wouldn't be half as happy right now if they didn't. Ain't life grand? Beware your evil twin.

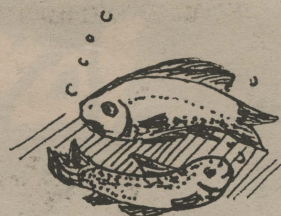
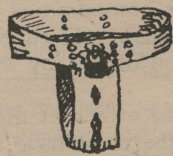
CANCER

I feel like I have to caution you that all is not as it appears. You probably aren't due to see any silver linings for quite a while. If things feel bad it's probably because they are and you have some unpleasant decisions to make. There is value in a long, hard search. There really really is more to life than champagne, nice cars, and your hair.



LEO

You, on the other hand, could probably use a mad dash away from self-indulgence. If the truth were told, you're tired of that game and so is everyone else. One of your best qualities is the care you take with yourself; it is admirable but taken too far it can alienate those around you. I'm afraid that's where you're at my dear. Maybe someone else would like to indulge you...if you'd give them a chance.



A ROOM OF OUR OWN

By The Collective

In 1980, the Women's Action Group, a club of the University of Victoria Students' Society, began lobbying the Students' Society Board of Directors for a room in the Student Union Building. A Women's Centre Advisory Committee was set up and it proposed that a Women's Centre be established to act as a drop-in centre, referral service, and library. Its mandate was to promote women's equality at all levels of campus life while informing the student body on issues affecting women. On February 22, 1981, the Board of Directors approved the Women's Centre proposal and since then, many women have donated their time to fulfilling the Women's Centre mandate.

The Women's Centre works on a volunteer, collective basis, although several paid staff positions are available through the University's Work Study program. The Centre is run by a Collective of women and members are encouraged to work within their own areas of interest and give input on such areas as health, social services, economic equality, international women, post secondary education, and the practice of feminist theory. We constantly expand our focus to incorporate new members' concerns and ideas.

Many of the activities and services that the Women's Centre organizes, provide opportunities for women to exchange ideas, concerns, and information. As well, the Women's Centre provides the chance to meet other women from a variety of backgrounds.

The Women's Centre has its own library and resource centre that is open to all students. The Centre's library includes books, periodicals, and pamphlets on issues that affect women. Library hours will be posted on the Women's Centre door (SUB 106) in early September.

The Women's Centre can give you information on community and social services available in Greater Victoria. The Centre also offers a supportive atmosphere and place

where women can stop and catch their breath. Women are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Centre and attend Women's Centre meetings to make full use of our resources.

We lobby a variety of groups starting on the campus with the Students' Society and the University administration, and, moving upward, to our provincial and federal governments. Our issues are varied and can include pay equity, health, safety, education, daycare, and more.

We are affiliated with a number of provincial and national groups and receive a variety of publications from them. These groups include the Canadian Federation of Students Women's Caucus (CFS), Canadian Abortion Rights Action League (CARAL), the Victoria Status of Women Action Group (SWAG), and the National Action Committee on the Status of Women (NAC), among others. As well, we offer political skills workshops, and strongly encourage women to participate in campus political life. A workshop will be offered to aid women in running for the Students' Society Board of Directors in the October Bi-election.

It's not all work, though. The Women's Centre organizes a multitude of social events, including speakers, musical events, coffee houses, pot-lucks, and the event of the year, the International Women's Day week of celebration. This year is a special year for the Women's Centre as it is our Ten Year Anniversary. Watch for a festive week of events in February.

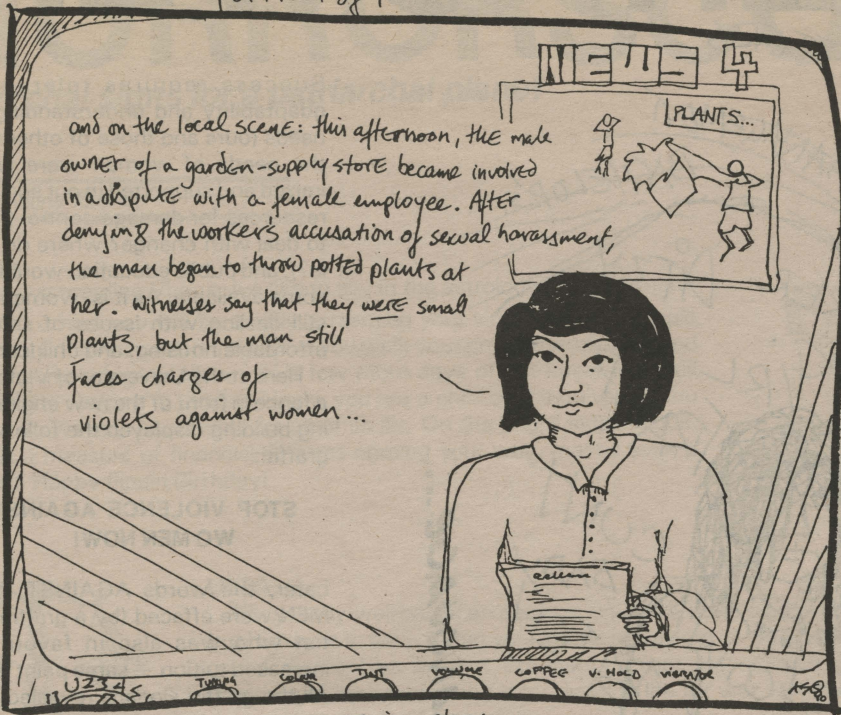
The Emily is produced by the Women's Centre and is always looking for women to write, draw, and take photographs. The Emily is Canada's oldest student feminist newspaper and is registered in the National Archives of Canada. Join us and become a part of Canada's history.

The Women's Centre Collective is a student women's group working for students in order to promote equality at all levels of the University. Meeting times will be posted on the Women's Centre door. Come out and join the feminist movement.



PANIC-STRICKEN

portrait of panic



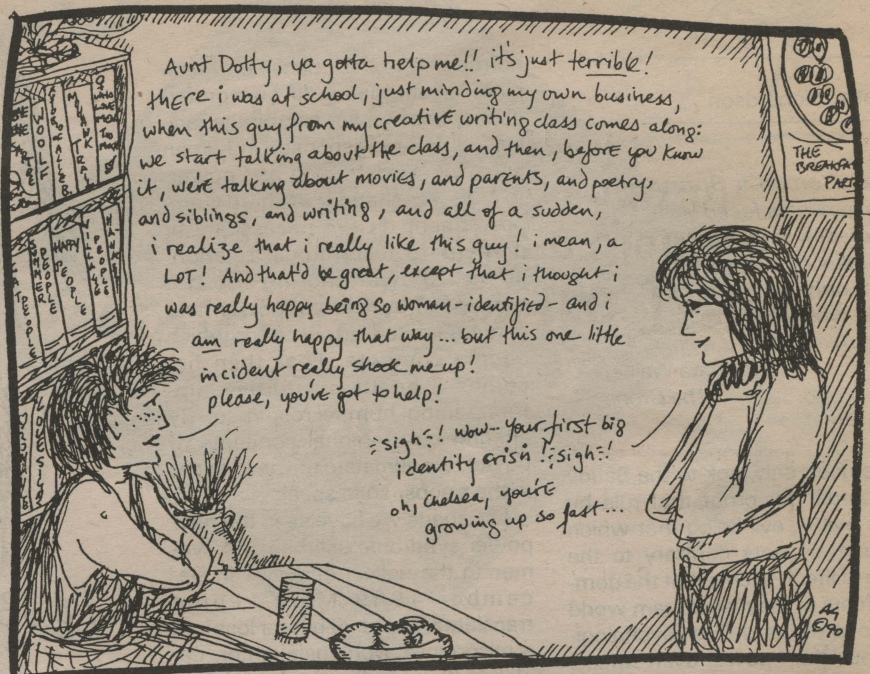
a mauve-ing story...

Portrait of Panic



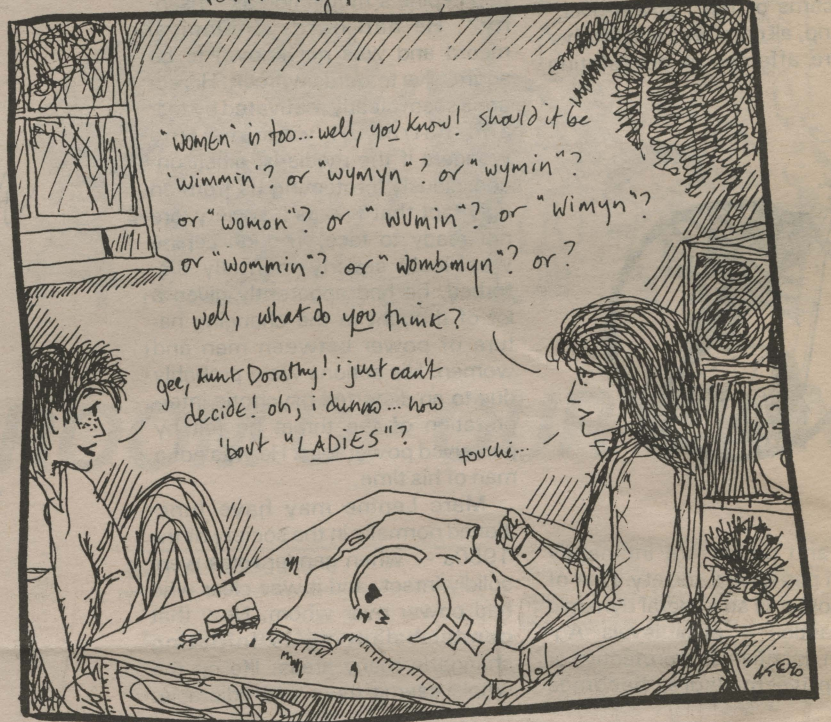
Dorothy's in-hair-out desires...

portrait of panic



no straight answers...

Portrait of panic



spell-craft.



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Watch for Them!

